



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

October 13, 1999

S. 835

Estuary Habitat Restoration Partnership Act of 1999

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
on September 29, 1999*

SUMMARY

S. 835 would establish the Estuary Habitat Restoration Collaborative Council, consisting of representatives from multiple federal agencies, that would develop a strategy for restoring estuary habitats and provide financial assistance to nonfederal entities for restoration projects. The bill also would authorize the appropriation of \$385 million over the 2000-2004 period. The bill would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

S. 835 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA). Any expenditures made by state and local governments to satisfy the matching requirements of grants authorized by this bill would be voluntary.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

CBO estimates that implementing the bill would result in additional outlays of \$329 million over the 2000-2004 period, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts each year. The estimated budgetary impact of S. 835 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Spending Under Current Law						
Budget Authority ^a	14	0	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	13	7	3	1	0	0
Proposed Changes						
Authorization Level	0	69	79	79	79	79
Estimated Outlays	0	36	61	74	79	79
Spending Under S. 835						
Authorization Level	14	69	79	79	79	79
Estimated Outlays	13	43	64	75	79	79

a. The Environmental Protection Agency's National Estuary Program has not yet received a full-year appropriation for 2000. It received an appropriation of \$14 million for 1999.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$4 million annually over the 2000-2004 period to the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) for administering the Collaborative Council and an additional \$40 million in 2000, \$50 million in 2001, and \$75 million annually over the 2002-2004 period for grants to perform restoration projects. No amounts were appropriated for these purposes in 1999, and no amounts have been provided to the Corps for this effort in its 2000 appropriation. The bill also would authorize \$25 million in each of fiscal years 2000 and 2001 to the Environmental Protection Agency for the National Estuary Program.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

This bill would impose no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. Any expenditures made by state and local governments to satisfy the matching requirements of grants authorized by this bill would be voluntary.

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